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'Italians in the World' Report, 2007

Synopsis

The story of Italian emigration is a book that is constantly unfolding: it was begun by the pioneers, and new migrants are continuing to write fresh pages today. In all the countries of the world there are interesting clues to our migratory history, and the 'Italians in the World' Report attempts to gather these together. This has been done in collaboration with Argentina, Australia and Great Britain, as well as with settlements in Croatia and Slovenia, which are strongly marked by the events of post-war history and still grappling with the problems of their aftermath.

We are not dealing here with far-away stories, places and communities, because there is a constant interplay between these communities and Italian society, with visits by politicians and government officials, representatives of local bodies, religious authorities, scholars, writers, members of the business, social and pastoral world and a closely-entwined series of activities: artistic, scientific, economic and touristic.

The *Migrants Report*, published annually, is offered as a work to encourage understanding and remembrance, putting the present-day situations down on the pages of history and preserving the link between these two Italys, which is increasingly essential in a globalised world.

In January, Fondazione Migrantes celebrates "National Migrations Day", drawing attention to all aspects of human mobility, starting with our own emigrants. This volume, now in its second edition, aims to help overcome, in Italy, the superficiality of attitude which leads many people to think that emigration is a thing of the past, irrelevant in today's world. At the same time, this wide-ranging collection of economic, social, cultural and religious data and information may be an incentive, for the emigrants themselves, to identify the kinds of themes and styles which are capable of inspiring interest and bringing these two Italys closer together. The 37 chapters which make up this Second *'Italians in the World' Report* include contributions from 47 authors, not only from the editorial staff of Fondazione Migrantes and the bodies comprising the Sponsoring Committee (ACLI, INAS-CISL, MCL and Missionari Scalabriniani), but also from other non-profit associations and public bodies.

The countries of settlement of emigrants and their descendants. The number of Italian citizens living abroad in April 2007 was 3,568,532, representing an increase of almost half a million compared with one year earlier. This sharp rise is due almost entirely to refinements in the Anagrafe degli Italiani Residenti all'Estero (AIRE) [Register of Italians Resident Abroad], which, in collaboration with the Consulates, has inserted many new entries for previously under-represented Italian nationals. 18% of these are minors, while a further 18% are aged over sixty-five: overall, this population is younger than that which has remained in the home country. Single people are in the majority (52%), and this too is a sign of a relatively young population. Women, representing 47% of the emigrant population, have usually been forgotten figures in this story, but there have been efforts in recent years to bring them back into the picture.

With regard to the distribution of the Italian presence around the world, to simplify a little, we can say that Italian emigration is chiefly Euro-American: more than half is to Europe (2,043,998 Italian citizens, 57.3%) and more than a third to America (1,330,148, representing 34.3%). However, we

must not overlook the communities which have settled on other continents: not only Oceania (119,483), long a major destination for our emigrants, but also Asia (26,670), which has received new entrepreneurial migratory flows, and Africa (48,223), where many countries (North Africa, Horn of Africa, South Africa) have received Italian nationals in the past.

Among the countries at the top of the list are those with half a million Italian citizens (Germany, Argentina and Switzerland) and France, with 350,000: here, the Italian presence becomes much larger if we also take account of naturalised citizens (as well as natives), an observation which also holds true for various other countries from America to Australia.

Then there are countries with 200,000 resident Italian citizens (Belgium, USA, Brazil) or 100,000 (UK, Canada, Australia) and, albeit with smaller numbers, various others in which important chapters in our emigration history have been written. In Europe, we must not forget the permanent settlements in Austria, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, as well as (for cross-border emigrations) Monaco, San Marino and Switzerland; in Latin America: Venezuela, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Mexico.

In Romania, for example, we find a lively community of new Italian emigrants, mostly entrepreneurs, alongside another, smaller in number and living in poorer conditions, extending from Dobrugia to Moldavia and from the Carpathians to Transylvania, echoing the flows from Friuli and Veneto which, at the end of the 18th century, supplied workers for the granite quarries or contractors for house-building.

The variety of these migratory flows finds confirmation in the INPS data on pensions paid abroad. In 2006, the top countries by number of pensions paid from Italy, each with more than 50,000, are Canada (65,942), France (56,126) and Australia (54,575). These are followed by two countries with more than 40,000 pensions (Argentina and the USA). Then there are Germany (36,486) and Switzerland (24,319). By continent, the largest numbers of payments are found in the European Union (34.1%), North America (26.9%) and Latin America (17.2%); next is Oceania (13.3%) and non-Community Europe, together with Asia and Africa, making up the remaining 8.5%.

Unfortunately, pensions are the map of an emigrant community which has grown old, and which is often poor and in need of assistance: to answer their needs in various countries of Latin America, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has implemented combined health policies.

Also living abroad are the descendants of the first Italian emigrants. Following *iure sanguinis* recognition of Italian citizenship, the AIRE register includes 1 in 37 Italians resident abroad (approx. 100,000 in number), a far from negligible proportion which is bound to rise, given the large numbers of applications already submitted to consulates and awaiting determination, said to be in the hundreds of thousands. Citizens by acquisition are concentrated in America (50.5%) and in Europe (43.1%), with residual shares for Asia (2,264), Oceania (2,251) and Africa (1,663). Argentina takes the lead for this the category of new citizens, with 65,570 cases in 2007, followed by Brazil with 13,300.

Regions of departure... and of return. More than half of the Italian citizens currently resident abroad are of southerly origin, but the northern and central regions (29.8% and 14.5% respectively) are far from absent in this phenomenon. It is sufficient to note that between 1876 and 1915, 3,230,000 people migrated from Veneto and Friuli – 23% of all Italian emigrants during that period. Emigrants from Veneto also accounted for 9% of those leaving the country between 1916 and 1942, and represented a substantial proportion of emigration after the Second World War: 11.5% of expatriates between 1946 and 1976.

Of all Italians living abroad today, 2,000,000 trace their origins to the South, 1,000,000 to the North and 500,000 to the central regions.

At the top of the list are the four southern regions: Sicily with 600,000 emigrants, Campania with some 400,000, and Calabria and Puglia with 300,000, followed by Lazio with a similar number, then Lombardy and Veneto with 250,000. The other regions, too, have significant shares of emigrants,

albeit on different scales, all the way down to Umbria (27,000) and Valle d'Aosta (4,000).

There are also differences in terms of emigration as a proportion of the current regional population, with a figure of 10% for Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Abruzzo and Sicily, 15% for Calabria and Basilicata, and 22% (1 in 5 emigrants from the region) for Molise. The Italian average – far from low – is 6.6%, and the only regions with percentages below this average are Emilia Romagna, Lombardy, Tuscany, Umbria, Valle d'Aosta and Piedmont.

In some cases, the emigrants outnumber those left behind in the commune of origin. Examples of this in Sicily are the Communes of Villarosa, Molise Filignano and Abruzzo Roccamonica, the latter having 1,574 residents abroad and only 1,012 residents remaining.

In the international scheme of things, Italian emigration has been the most strongly marked by returning emigrants, some of whom have returned to their original regions, which have meanwhile benefited from the money they have sent home during their time abroad. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, these remittances came to be known as the "fantastic rain of gold". Since 1998, the remittances sent home to Italy by emigrants to other countries have exceeded those sent abroad by Italians, who for the most part are definitively settled and inclined to invest their savings *in situ*.

Repatriates, who have been recorded only since 1905 (by non-European countries) and 1921 (by European countries), are estimated at 9 million between 1905 and 1981, with a negative balance for Italy of approximately 17 million. Between 1987 and 2002, registrations of new Italian citizens from abroad totalled 704,208, slightly lower than the number of those leaving the country, at 731,579. The busiest periods for repatriation are generally associated with major historic events: the two World Wars, the depression of 1966-67, the oil shock of 1973, and in more recent times the South American economic crisis of 2000/2001. For those returning to Italy, the Regions offer support and financial assistance for a period of time. Many provide education grants for the children and grandchildren of repatriated citizens, as well as courses for emigration agents and initiatives to bolster the economy and tourism. There are also numerous associations devoted to returning emigrants: in Caserta, for example, the "Association for Italian Repatriates" was recently established (October 2006).

The story of our emigration as seen from Argentina. It is estimated that the majority of the population of Argentina is of Italian origin: over a period of one hundred years (1876-1976), approximately three million Italians moved there, and more than half a million of the country's current population have retained Italian citizenship. The first phase of this migratory epic begins in the mid-eighteenth century. Those involved are Italian countrymen and women who, after eventful voyages (by ship, on two biscuits a day, with no medical care or preventive medicine) finally disembark and, if they are found to be healthy and of strong physical constitution, spread themselves throughout the country. Local legislation grants equal rights to the new arrivals, while at the same time in the USA there is a protectionist policy in force to protect the country from "races" regarded as inferior (emigrants from Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean regions). By the turn of the century, Italians account for more than one-tenth of the resident population (then around 4 million), concentrated around the great city of Buenos Aires, with very large families and modest levels of economic achievement. They do not occupy themselves only with work. 1863 sees the publication of our emigrants' first newspaper ("L'italiano", naturally), based in Buenos Aires. Nor is there is any shortage of interest in football, since they are the founders of prestigious clubs such as *Boca Juniors* and River Plate.

The *second phase* is entered at the start of the 19th century. Skilled workers and artisans begin to arrive, and this contributes to the growth of capital and the country's "economic miracle", including the construction of the rail network. The global crisis of 1930 causes a sharp interruption in the flow of emigrants, which is exacerbated by Fascist legislation in Italy (restrictions on leaving the country, except for Jews, anti-fascists, trade unionists and dissident intellectuals) and by Argentinian law

(contract of employment required for the issuing of any disembarkation visa).

The *third phase* begins after the Second World War. In post-war Italy, hundreds of thousands of people find themselves without a roof over their heads: Italians who have lost their homes in the shifting of the Front, others expelled by former colonies, freed prisoners, dispersed soldiers, immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe. This produces a mass migration towards the capital, the so-called industrial triangle, and areas offering the possibility of cross-border work or a move to another country.

The flow of immigrants into Argentina includes a high proportion of those from the professional classes, attracted by the country's economic boom. Between 1947 and 1951, on the basis of the Peron-De Gasperi agreement, 330,000 Italians arrive (although half a million could be accommodated), with a strong tendency towards the recomposition of the nuclear family and towards social and cultural integration, until 1960, when the flow begins to decline.

Italians are present in all sectors and have brought in many trades. They also make their mark as landlords, entrepreneurs and politicians: three-quarters of all wine producers are of Italian origin. Then the big Italian contracting and retailing businesses arrive. The tones of "italianità" [Italianness] spread throughout the country, including the cocoliche and lunfardo spoken in Buenos Aires, born out of the fusion of many Italian dialects with words of Arab and Spanish origin.

The *fourth phase* consists of a reversal of the flow, with Argentinians coming to Italy, firstly for political reasons and then for economic reasons (crisis of 2001-2002). These arrivals are initially refugees, then Italian natives and other Argentinians, young and eager, all looking for work, for whom Italy is often merely a stepping-stone to Spain (which has received some 100,000 Italian-Americans, compared with the 17,000 Argentinians who have settled in Italy), a more promising country for a variety of reasons. Central to this process are the growing demands of the Italian population and the support offered by special regional projects.

The emigration of yesteryear. History is certainly made by great events and great names, but also by the humbler experiences of millions of Italians with no money or culture – a humble past which people sometimes try to forget.

Once upon a time, people crossed the ocean on the decks of ships or in comfortless *cameroni*, or they crossed the Alps on swollen feet, with stinging eyes and anxious hearts. The last century sees the Abruzzo native Salvatore Borsei crossing Africa on foot in two years, surviving countless difficulties, to find work on the construction sites of South Africa. Immediately after the Second World War, too, many people are so poor that they cannot afford the cost of the journey, and consequently take advantage of "paid passage" schemes such as those offered by the brickmaking industry in Bedford, where at the end of the 1970s there are more than 8,000 Italians, representing 10% of the city's total population.

Again in Great Britain, in the early 1800s, people emigrate from areas such as Comasco, Appennino Tosco-Emiliano, Liguria and Ciociaria (which continues long afterwards to produce a flow of emigrants) to scrape a living as best they can (*Little Italy* in Holborn) and to work, particularly in London, as small artisans, wandering sellers of statuettes, knife-sharpeners, tilers and street artists: in short, hawkers, acrobats and organ grinders, rather like today's kerb-side windscreen-washers, a kind of "vu cumpra" before the term was coined. At the turn of the century we also find small traders, particularly in the food sector, with itinerant sellers of chestnuts in winter and ice-creams in summer. There is no shortage of anarchists and revolutionaries.

In the aftermath of the Second World War in Australia, Italians arriving after 4 or 5 weeks at sea, with no profession and entirely ignorant of the language, are capable of working only as unqualified manual labourers in heavy industry, construction and agriculture, where labour is in short supply. However, they are readily appreciated for their commitment, stamina, diligence and eagerness to learn, and as time passes they succeed in rising.

Our emigrants are to be found at the birth of small towns such as Cascalho in Brazil, founded at the

end of the 18th century, or the great San Paolo, also chiefly Italian. Capitan Pastene (Chile) was founded in the early 1900s by families from the Modena Appennine region. Another Italian from the Modena Appennines, Felice Pedrone, having set out with the intention of prospecting for gold, founded the city of Fairbanks in Alaska, and a theatre play has been based on his experiences (*Il Mistero di Felix Pedro* by Giorgio Comaschi). This flow of emigrants also produced many small communes such as that of Rocchetta Sant'Antonio in the province of Foggia, which established the "Coordinamento nazionale piccoli comuni dell'Italia minore" [National Coordination Council for Small Communes of Lesser Italy], which now boasts over 40,000 members.

There are plenty of stories of defeat to account for the origins of the exodus. In 1891, redundant employees of Lanificio Rossi di Schio in the province of Vicenza are behind the emigration to various states of Brazil by 300 families, who establish in Rio Grande do Sul, among other businesses, a textiles cooperative which is still operating today.

Argentina is perhaps the country bearing the richest traces of Italian labour, which are to be found even in Tierra del Fuego in Patagonia, where our countrymen and women have been active players in the tourist industry. These people – many in number and who, with considerable hard work and commitment, have dedicated themselves to local development – form the subject of the video *Migrantes Italianos [= Italian Migrants]*, made by the Argentinian director Ernesto Morales in collaboration with the Tuscany Region and screened with success in Italy.

The *Report* also tells of cases of racism, of workers growing old alone, of Jews escaping racialist laws during the Nazi period, of people caught up in various misadventures, of the active and of the retired.

On 9 September 1917, in Milwaukee in the USA, a group of Italian anarchists clashed with police. Two are killed, and the others are arrested and sentenced to 25 years in prison for "conspiracy to murder" in a legal process characterised by prejudice. The judgement is quashed on appeal: five of the anarchists, although acquitted, are forced to repatriate, as recounted in the Gualdo Tadino Museum of Emigration book entitled *Milwaukee 1919*, written by Robert Tanzillo, a young Italian-American born in Brooklyn.

One chapter, dedicated to museums of emigration around the world, recalls the greatness and epic suffering of those obliged to seek their "fortune" elsewhere. During this period too, the selling of dreams is widespread, but all too often these dreams come crashing down as soon as the first job is applied for in the destination country. The Ellis Island Museum commemorates all emigrants from Europe, whereas the Meucci Garibaldi Museum in Rosebank – now operated by OSIA, the Order Sons of Italy in America – is devoted exclusively to Italians.

Anti-Italian behaviour is also encountered during the Second World War. In Great Britain on the night of 10 June 1940, strong feelings of hostility, inflamed by Mussolini's entry into the war earlier that day, drive small mobs to storm shops owned by Italians, now regarded as enemies, smashing windows and looting. The most violent episodes take place in Liverpool and Edinburgh. Churchill institutes an internment programme, and some 4,000 Italians are arrested and transported to the Isle of Man. Those regarded as the most dangerous cases are deported to Canada, but this measure is suspended after the sinking (2 July 1940) of the transatlantic liner Arandora Star by a German U-boat, with the death of 446 of the 717 Italians on board, along with 175 others including Germans and Austrians. The only internees to be released are those prepared to undertake work "of national importance", and only after Italy, in September 1943, releases other internees, with an understandable aftermath of bitterness and disillusion.

Watching over the misadventures of the past and over the present-day communities are the dead Italians in cemeteries both lost and known, a few of which have been rescued, such as that on the Delstern hill in the city of Hagen in the Ruhr, where a common tomb has finally been dedicated to the 52 Italians who died in their barracks on 2 December 1944 under the bombs of the Allies.

A critical re-reading of the Mafia in America. Author Mario Puzo (1920-1999), the son of

illiterate Neapolitan parents, owes his success to the 1969 novel *Il Padrino (The Godfather)*, the story of an Italian-American family and its rise in the world of the New York Mafia. The '*Italians in the World' Report* offers an interesting re-reading of this Mafia by a Campania scholar.

In the USA, emigrants from Campania are concentrated mainly in the large cities of the north-east, where they work in factories, road and rail construction and mining.

Not to be overlooked, particularly in the early years of the great exodus, are the numerous instances of their exploitation, which begins even before they leave, since one way of financing the ticket for the ocean crossing is on credit. There are some shady characters operating among these Campania workers. Almost always Italians themselves, even former emigrants, they have a cunning characterised by the Americans as "Neapolitan". Having learned the language – or as much of it as they need – they insinuate themselves, by charm or by threat, into the circle of the hirers of foreign labour, operating initially as intermediaries and then as "padroni" [bosses]. The emigrants, met by associates of the boss when they disembark, accept the protection and the possibility of work offered to them, encouraged and reassured by the fact that the bosses and their henchmen speak the same dialect as them; furthermore, with nothing to lose, they are ready to do any kind of work without batting an eyelid.

Many workers from Campania are brought into the USA this way, but even more into Canada, where the laws – rather less restrictive than those of the USA – give greater operational freedom to the bosses and their workers. The large multinationals – partly to avoid creating problems for themselves, but above all so as not to risk remaining without labour – encourage these practices of forced recruitment, accepting the services of the traffickers, who almost always manage to have the latest arrivals hired and then to exploit them, demanding and receiving a recruitment fee every month. Needless to say, anyone who refuses to pay runs the risk of losing their job or is beaten up by ruthless gangmasters: thus, with the city's consent, we see the makings of organised crime, which is then falsely labelled by the American mass media as a typical product of emigration from Campania and from the South in general. When the "padroni", with a huge increase in their power, turn into "padrini" [godfathers] and come to threaten the interests of the great American capital, the Mafia will find itself certified as a purely Italian national product.

Today's emigration flows. Today, emigrating Italians are often successful professionals or people seeking to acquire that status: a survey conducted by Sportello Stage on a sample of 170 young people shows that 97% are interested in acquiring work experience abroad. The achievements seen in all fields are striking, not only in a large nation like the USA, but also in various European countries such as Germany, France, Belgium, Great Britain and Switzerland.

Since the economic revival of the 1980s, the British capital has become a powerful magnet for highly-qualified emigrants, generally on a temporary basis: for many professionals, managers and experts in the sectors of banking, insurance and international trade, the City of London, together with the new financial centre of Docklands, is a very highly-prized goal. Another significant presence today is that of numerous specialist doctors and researchers.

Along with the USA, the UK is the primary destination for the "brain drain" from Italian universities. The precise number of Italian academics present in the "golden triangle" of London, Oxford and Cambridge and in the other British universities is unknown, but a 2003 study estimated that approximately 13% of all European "post-docs" in Great Britain are from Italy. According to an estimate by the Brussels Consulate, there are 6,000 professionals working in Belgium in international institutions and large Italian companies.

While they are certainly extremely numerous, it is difficult to quantify the number of students going abroad to learn languages, particularly English but also French, German and Spanish. In 2004 there were almost 45,000 Italian students registered with foreign universities, nearly the same as the number of foreign students registered in Italy (40,641 in the same year), made up as follows: 18.1% in Germany, 13.9% in Austria, 11.6% in Great Britain, 10.4% in France and 10.0% in Switzerland.

On the other hand, relatively few (7.4%) attend universities in the USA, and virtually none in Canada (0.8%) and Australia (0.4%) (OCSE, 2006).

Not to be neglected, finally, is our artistic presence around the world, which is not merely a heritage from the past. Between the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, the contribution of Italian emigrants was fundamental to the construction of the architectural and urban image of many countries of emigration. In Argentina, for instance, Italians helped to build a new country, changing the face of many cities: in Buenos Aires, around 70% of public buildings are the work of Italian architects and entrepreneurs, including emblematic examples such as the Casa Rosada, the Palace of Congress and the Teatro Colón. Fundamental to the last of these was the collaboration between architects, building contractors and master craftsmen of Italian origin who were capable of reproducing decorations and stucco-work.

Today, the picture of Italian architecture abroad is far more complex than in the past. After the time of the Italian architects who, during and immediately after the Fascist era, set an example which was followed all over the world (the so-called "Tendenza" movement), and after the years of Aldo Rossi's extraordinary fame, a large part of the representativeness is embodied by "big firms" like Renzo Piano and Massimiliano Fuksas. Winner of the Pritzker Prize in 1998 (equivalent to the Nobel for architecture), the *Renzo Piano Building Workshop*, from its bases in Genoa and Paris, has put its stamp on projects on every continent, concentrating its activities in the USA in recent years. The firm of Massimiliano Fuksas, on the other hand, with offices in Rome, Paris and Vienna, has its most significant projects in Europe, with approximately 80 creations strewn around the world. In Japan, the new offices of the Italian Institute of Culture in Tokyo, designed by Gae Aulenti, became a national *cause célèbre* in 2005 following the debate inspired by the red colour of its exterior. But there are many names that might be cited for the glory they are giving to our country.

Notable Italians around the world. There are many and various stories that could be told about our emigration, which has seen millions of people forced to leave their loved ones and certainties behind in order to seek elsewhere what they have been unable to find in their country of birth.

Let us begin with a historical curiosity that not everyone knows: John Martin, alias Giovanni Martini da Sala Consilina (in the province of Salerno), bugler with the 7th Cavalry under the command of General George Armstrong Custer, was the only survivor of the massacre at Little Big Horn.

There is no shortage of prominent figures in the world of music, sometimes better known abroad than in Italy.

Between the end of the 19th and the start of the 20th century, the Sardinian Stanislao Silesu was dubbed the "king of melody" by Edward VIII of England. Silesu was a precocious Italian composer of light and chamber music who managed to write his first concerto at the age of 10, serenades and canzoni at 13 and a musical comedy at 15 before emigrating from Sardinia, first to Milan and then to London and Paris.

Moving on to present-day personages, we are spoilt for choice with regard to individuals of Italian origin who have succeeded in public life in their adopted country: for example, Mario Cuomo, for many years the Governor of the State of New York; Roberto Lavagna, former Economy Minister in Buenos Aires and currently a candidate for the Argentine presidency; Rudolph Giuliani, Republican candidate for the US presidency; and numerous ministers, governors, members of parliament, entrepreneurs and successful professionals.

There are also many prominent names in sport: basketball player Andrea Bargnani, first European rookie in the history of the NBA; volleyball player Francesca Piccinini, with a successful career in Spain; Fabio Cannavaro, footballer for Real Madrid; and, in addition to the various coaches recruited by foreign teams, Italian native Hope Solo captains the US women's team in the football World Cup in China.

At a more committed level, we find the priests who have left Italy to help their fellow countrymen and women in other countries: almost 3,000 of them over the course of a century. Around the world

today there are 461 centres, parish churches and missions for pastoral care in the Italian language, with 516 priests celebrating the liturgy in our tongue. There are also 166 nuns and 45 lay workers involved in these pastoral activities. Half of these presences and pastoral structures are in Europe (214), and the other half across the Atlantic. In the diocese of Brooklyn alone, the smallest in the USA, there are 40 parish churches where Italian is used for Sunday services.

There are some 13,000 Italian missionaries working in 143 countries to spread and bear witness to the Christian faith, sometimes at the risk of their lives: a fine page in the story of Italians abroad, often supported by lay volunteers who provide their services for 3-4 years in order to help with the work of the missions.

Italian media abroad. 472 daily newspapers, 263 radio programmes and 45 television programmes in Italian. This is what emerges from *L'Italia dell'Informazione nel mondo [The Italy of Information around the world]*, the register compiled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which lists press publications and radio and TV programmes in other countries. Of these, 86 are published in Italy: 78 newspapers, 4 radio programmes and 2 TV broadcasts.

The history of the Italian press around the world is now centuries old, and was begun in the ecclesiastical sphere by a few political exiles in Europe and America, where the largest Italian communities are concentrated. The first newspaper to appear is the *Croce del Sud*, published by the Capuchin friars of Rio de Janeiro in 1765. While such publications are initially purely political in their motivation, they come to acquire a more spontaneous character, and there is a proliferation of more community bulletins than true newspapers, with a language which is often impoverished but is that of the people.

In 1893, a survey by the National Office of Statistics records 130 Italian periodicals published abroad: 82 in Europe, 27 in South America, 17 in the USA and 4 in Africa. In 1905 there are 264 in the list, with an increase in the number of newspapers produced in North America (90) and South America (48). Newspapers are also published in China, where an Italian monthly appears in 1906. In Tunisia between 1859 and 1910 there are as many as 52 newspapers in the Italian language. In the USA at the beginning of the 20th century, the number of Italian papers published is "far higher, on average, than in any other place of Italian settlement, including those which are flourishing more vigorously". Italian newspapers in the Americas see a decline at the end of the Second World War, partly owing to the fall in emigration to Argentina, Brazil and the USA, and partly because the second and third generations are integrating into local communities, gradually abandoning the use of the Italian language. During this period, however, new publications do appear in Europe.

Around the world today, according to the register held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there are 11 daily newspapers in the Italian language: of these, 5 are concentrated in the Americas. The oldest of them is *La Voce d'Italia*, founded in 1949 in Caracas, Venezuela.

Another paper, now in its second century of publication, is the *Corriere Canadese*, "the only daily newspaper in Italian" to be published in Canada, founded in 1954. The paper, which can be read on the Internet at www.corriere.com, is aimed at the numerous communities of Italian origin to be found in Canada (2 million citizens and natives out of 30 million Canadians), and particularly at those who speak and read Italian. 1995 sees the appearance of another paper, the *Tandem*, a weekly English-language publication aimed primarily at young people, the children of Italians who mostly speak English. The newspaper wants to keep the Italian culture and language alive in Canada, especially in Ontario, where it has the largest circulation, and in Montreal, Quebec. A young publication, born in 1998, is the daily *America Oggi*, appearing after all the employees of a well-known Italian newspaper (*Progresso Italoamericano*) are made redundant. Some of these, including journalists, typesetters and administrative personnel, decide to set up another daily paper, to be sold on newsstands and circulated free of charge in approximately 70 universities where Italian is studied. In the USA, another daily newspaper is also published: the *Gente d'Italia*, founded in 2000. And in July 2007 the birth is announced of another Italian daily in Argentina: *L'italiano in Sud America*.

Language and culture as a means of achievement. Italian is nowadays the fourth most studied language in the world, the second by the number of people enrolled on an Italian language course in Canada and the fourth in the United States. There are about 200 million Italian speakers in the world, around a third of which are citizens, a third are of Italian extraction and another third are language enthusiasts. In 2006 the Ministry for Foreign Affairs distributed more than 26 million euros for the implementation of Italian language courses abroad, the 80% of which were destined to European and American countries. These two continents actually host 83% of the Italian schools and bilingual classes offering Italian language modules, 73% of the Italian cultural institutes and more than 90% of the Dante Alighieri society Committees. Overall there are more than 600,000 people in the world studying Italian at local state schools, universities, Italian cultural institutes and the different associations actively promoting our language, from which the Dante Alighieri society stands out. Nevertheless, not everything is going in the right direction. The Bavaria *Land* has decided to completely decline the task of directly managing the mother-tongue Italian courses by the 2008/9 school-year in order to focus on the German language integration in schools starting from the nursery period, with the willingness, however, to support Italian as a complementary and optional activity (Arbeits gemeinschaft) in the Realschule (intermediate secondary schools), and to create bilingual classes. Also in Canadian-Italian families the usage of the Italian language is gradually disappearing. According to forecasts, in ten or fifteen years the children of the Italians living in Canada will no longer be able to speak Italian, and they will also have problems understanding it: such is the concern expressed by the Italian embassy and organizations. This is why much reflection has been given to the strategies that need to be followed in order to introduce the teaching of the Italian language from the early age, i.e. from the crèche, and to expand children programs on the Rai International channel, also paying more attention to teachers' preparation. One example of positive evolution has been given by the United States, where in the past Italian had been demoted to being considered as the "labourers' language", while the "language of culture, refinement and travels" was French. In 2006, 61,000 boys and girls were studying Italian, a figure almost double compared to 1970. Our language is now the third most studied one in the US (with 746,00 people studying Spanish, 200,000 French and 91,000 German). The chances of a further step forward are real, since Italian is no longer considered as a language to teach only to the descendants of the emigrants, but as a language bearing culture and style. The Italian language and culture will surely be able to impose itself even more, not only by virtue of its historical magnitude, but also of the effort that will be made, in today's Italy, in selecting the contents which are able to attract the interest of the Italians scattered around the world, as well as of the countries hosting them.

The Italians abroad and the entrepreneurial world. Our foreign export sales in 2006 totalled 327 billion euros, with a tendency to a repositioning in the highest market segments. In the same year though, imports have increased more than exports even in the typical sectors of the "made in Italy", like textile and clothing. This seems be due to the fact that many Italian companies, in order to cut costs, tend to move even the high end production to their foreign subsidiaries, thus leaving Italy with only the design and the marketing phases. Although also in Italy one can now perceive a more dynamic inclusion in a globalized context, this is less felt than in any other industrialized competitor countries like Germany, France and Great Britain. The marginalization of our productive system is at stake here. We are lagging behind as far as foreign investments are concerned, despite having greatly exceeded 1 trillion euros in 2006. The most invested areas are Eastern Europe, North Africa, China and last, India. In contrast, the presence of Italian companies in highly technical and innovative production sectors is still scarce. Foreign enterprises in which Italian companies hold an interest are 17,200, with 5,789 individuals investing, a total of 1,120,550 people employed abroad, and a turnover of 322 million euros. In four cases out of five we are talking about controlling interests, while minority and equal interest participations account for 22.1% of cases. In recent years there has

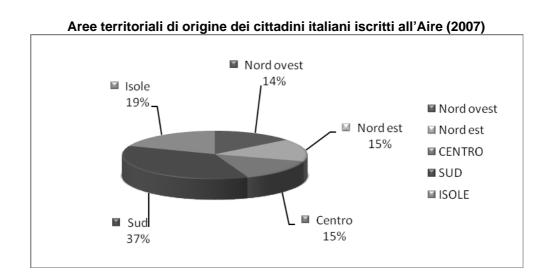
been a growing tendency to acquire, merge and invest in distribution networks and in the traditional "made in Italy" and fashion businesses. However, with 150 trade offices operating at the 238 diplomatic and consular network seats, more than 100 Institute of Foreign Trade offices and 170 chambers of commerce abroad, we could still do better. Nevertheless, since good intentions are equivalent in value to actual progress, one has to recognize that the law 56 of 2005 on the internationalization of enterprises did not have the expected effects as far as the coordination of public and private bodies, the opening of one-stop shops and the simplification of the law and of the administrative practices are concerned. Something positive that is worth pointing out is that the Institute of Foreign Trade, in its 2006 fund allocation, has privileged strategic areas and innovative sectors.

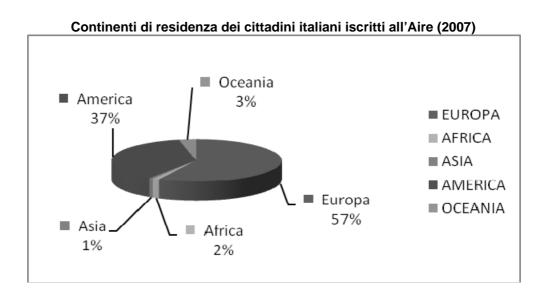
A greater presence of the Italian System abroad necessarily implies a link with the Italians living abroad. The situation has been taken care of by the PPTIE (Territorial Partnership of Italians Abroad Programme) and by the Itenets project (International Training and Employement Network), the latter with reference to seven regions of Southern Italy (Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Molise, Apulia, Sicily and Sardinia).

Their aim has consisted in the improvement the occupational and training systems through the contribution and the enhancement of the Italians abroad as facilitators (PPTIE), as well as the creation of a network of information, promotion and planning services involving the emigrants and their associations and enterprises (ITENETs). These are innovative routes to experiment, but also to critically analyze in the light of the results they will bear. As the "Italians in the World" report states, it is often said, especially at an official level, that the Italian "business communities" abroad represent an extraordinary resource for Italy, as well as a real development factor and a great competitive edge for our country system; in actual fact, however, too often rhetoric does not turn into facts and, more importantly, consistency is not taken into account when creating and implementing new legislative measures and public initiatives. Emigrants should at once be considered as a strategic resource also from the economic point of view, and if we don't want this to remain just a slogan, we have to implement it with no further delay.

An innovative commitment for the future. The "Italians in the World" report is a book rich in information, aiming to awaking our attention towards the emigration world and to highlighting its potential without hiding problems and concealing the complexity of such challenge. In order for this world to really become a resource for Italy, there are necessary changes, and consequently an innovative attitude, to be considered. The election of the Foreign Administrative Area MPs has not caused the role of the emigrant associations or of the Committee and of the General Council of Italians abroad, as invaluable participation channels, to fail. Without the territorial "antennas" of the associations, the Committees and the Cgie, the MPs's representation capability could be diminished when it comes to understanding problems and expectations of the resident communities abroad. The MPs representation is of a more general kind compared to the more specific one of other entities, although there are clear interconnections. The associations' merits are undeniable as for level of aggregation, mutual assistance, protection and participation, and one should actually recognize the social and cultural promotion function that they carry out within the Italian communities abroad, a function which has been acknowledged through the revision of the law 383/2000 on associations in their different forms. It is necessary, however, for these entities to better interpret the economical, cultural and political processes currently underway, their participation possibilities, their connections with Italy, the needs of the new emigrants. The associations, and not only them, have to make an effort of adaptation to the national contexts, while the fellow-country people should adjust themselves to the generational change. What is being done at a regional level is not at all little, but also the regions, in their interventions, are called to provide more attractive elements; likewise, for the Committees and the Cgie, it is not only a question of strengthening the resources and the areas of

intervention, but also of starting reconsidering their own role. The issue arises in the same terms at a cultural level, as well as for the pastoral activities of the Italians in the world, between past experiences and more diversified needs today, between attachment to one's country of birth and inclusion into the hosting country, between local language and Italian language. Tradition and opening up to the future: taking interest in emigration today means editing a new synopsis. Such is the message of the 2007 Migrants Report, a tool to help us reflect and prepare the future.





Cittadini italiani iscritti all'Aire. Prime 5 regioni di origine per paese di insediamento (2007)

					P P	A D.C.E.		CVIZZED			ED A	NOTA		DEL C	NIO.		DD 4	CILE		
10	OTALE		GERN	ANIA		ARGENTINA			SVIZZERA			FRANCIA			BELG	310		BRA	SILE	
Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v.a.	%
Sicilia	595.749	16,7	Sicilia	186.851	32,2	Calabria	68.729	13,7	Lombardia	73.571	14,8	Sicilia	58.841	16,9	Sicilia	86.647	36,9	Lazio	62.472	28,3
Campania	379.435	10,6	Puglia	93.557	16,1	Sicilia	56.421	11,2	Campania	67.950	13,7	Calabria	33.806	9,7	Puglia	23.306	9,9	Veneto	53.063	24,0
Calabria	312.070	8,7	Campania	70.834	12,2	Piemonte	46.875	9,3	Puglia	63.111	12,7	Puglia	31.146	8,9	Abruzzi	16.493	7,0	Lombardia	19.490	8,8
Lazio	300.014	8,4	Calabria	60.688	10,5	Lazio	43.415	8,6	Sicilia	62.509	12,6	Lazio	23.918	6,9	Veneto	14.684	6,3	Campania	15.496	7,0
Puglia	297.536	8,3	Sardegna	26.965	4,7	Campania	41.443	8,2	Calabria	40.473	8,2	Veneto	23.805	6,8	Campania	13.167	5,6	Calabria	11.953	5,4
Altre	1.683.728	47,2	Altre	140.749	24,3	Altre	246.340	49,0	Altre	188.388	38,0	Altre	176.541	50,7	Altre	80.309	34,2	Altre	58.420	26,4
Totale	3.568.532	100,0	Totale	579.644	100,0	Totale	503.223	100,0	Totale	496.002	100,0	Totale	348.057	100,0	Totale	234.606	100,0	Totale	220.894	100,0

STATI UNI	STATI UNITI d'AMERICA REGNO UNITO				CANADA			AUSTRALIA			VENEZUELA			SPAGNA			URUGUAY			
Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%
Sicilia	43.529	21,9	Campania	34.494	20,8	Calabria	24.206	18,3	Calabria	23.702	20,2	Campania	20.440	23,2	Lombardia	10.622	14,6	Campania	10.723	15,8
Campania	33.555	16,9	Sicilia	21.385	12,9	Lazio	14.385	10,9	Sicilia	21.261	18,1	Sicilia	14.653	16,6	Lazio	8.797	12,1	Lazio	8.761	12,9
Lazio	21.168	10,6	Lazio	18.185	11,0	Abruzzi	14.109	10,7	Campania	11.676	10,0	Abruzzi	11.072	12,6	Piemonte	7.884	10,8	Lombardia	8.493	12,5
Calabria	16.202	8,1	Lombardia	14.541	8,8	Campania	12.925	9,8	Veneto	10.854	9,3	Puglia	8.577	9,7	Campania	6.082	8,3	Piemonte	8.347	12,3
Puglia	13.074	6,6	Emilia R.	9.936	6,0	Sicilia	12.403	9,4	Abruzzi	10.135	8,6	Lazio	6.525	7,4	Sicilia	5.636	7,7	Liguria	7.140	10,5
Altre	71.387	35,9	Altre	67.524	40,7	Altre	54.325	41,0	Altre	39.701	33,8	Altre	26.866	30,5	Altre	33.923	46,5	Altre	24.293	35,9
Totale	198.915	100,0	Totale	166.065	100,0	Totale	132.353	100,0	Totale	117.329	100,0	Totale	88.133	100,0	Totale	72.944	100,0	Totale	67757	100,0

	CILE PAESI BASS			BASSI		SUD A	FRICA		PE	RÙ		LUSSEMBURGO			AUSTRIA			ECUADOR		
Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%	Regione	v. a.	%
Liguria	11.072	29,4	Sardegna	5.965	20,3	Lazio	3.339	11,9	Lazio	13.771	54,1	Puglia	5.869	27,0	Trentino A. A.	6.316	41,4	Liguria	2.208	21,3
Lazio	7.923	21,0	Sicilia	3.848	13,1	Piemonte	3.206	11,5	Liguria	4.162	16,4	Umbria	1.892	8,7	Friuli V. G.	1.348	8,8	Lazio	1.929	18,6
Piemonte	3.627	9,6	Campania	2.514	8,5	Friuli V. G.	2.922	10,4	Lombardia	1.360	5,3	Friuli V. G.	1.795	8,2	Veneto	1.231	8,1	Lombardia	1.289	12,5
Lombardia	2.868	7,6	Lombardia	2.505	8,5	Lombardia	2.829	10,1	Piemonte	1.067	4,2	Marche	1.626	7,5	Lombardia	1.120	7,3	Campania	1.006	9,7
Emilia R.	2.196	5,8	Puglia	1.962	6,7	Veneto	2.790	10,0	Veneto	901	3,5	Abruzzi	1.430	6,6	Lazio	844	5,5	Piemonte	749	7,2
Altre	10.034	26,6	Altre	12.639	42,9	Altre	12.882	46,1	Altre	4.172	16,4	Altre	9.152	42,1	Altre	4.390	28,8	Altre	3.165	30,6
Totale	37.720	100,0	Totale	29.433	100,0	Totale	27.968	100,0	Totale	25.433	100,0	Totale	21.764	100,0	Totale	15.249	100,0	Totale	10.346	100,0

Fonte: Rapporto Migrantes Italiani nel Mondo. Elaborazioni su dati Aire

Cittadini italiani iscritti all'Aire. Primi 5 Paesi di residenza per regioni di origine (2007)

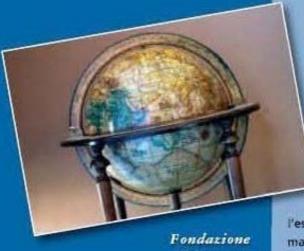
TO	TOTALE VALLE D'AOSTA				PIEMONTE			LOMBARDIA			LIGURIA			TRENTINO ALTO ADIGE			VENETO			
Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%
Germania	579.644	16,2	Svizzera	1.450	36,6	Argentina	46.875	28,8	Svizzera	73.571	27,9	Argentina	12.006	14,1	Germania	15.295	27,4	Brasile	53.063	21,4
Argentina	503.223	14,1	Francia	1.041	26,3	Svizzera	19.832	12,2	Argentina	30.889	11,7	Cile	11.072	13,0	Svizzera	12.164	21,8	Svizzera	37.622	15,2
Svizzera	496.002	13,9	Germania	159	4,0	Francia	17.934	11,0	Francia	21.409	8,1	Francia	8.465	9,9	Austria	6.316	11,3	Argentina	29.246	11,8
Francia	348.057	9,8	Regno Unito	152	3,8	Uruguay	8.347	5,1	Brasile	19.490	7,4	Uruguay	7.140	8,4	Argentina	4.302	7,7	Francia	23.805	9,6
Belgio	234.606	6,6	Argentina	150	3,8	Germania	8.307	5,1	Germania	15.156	5,8	Svizzera	5.688	6,7	Francia	2.117	3,8	Germania	19.123	7,7
Altri paesi	1.407.000	39,4	Altri paesi	1.011	25,5	Altri paesi	61.466	37,8	Altri paesi	103.012	39,1	Altri paesi	41.046	48,1	Altri paesi	15.667	28,0	Altri paesi	85.435	34,4
Totale	3.568.532	100,0	Totale	3.963	100,0	Totale	162761	100,0	Totale	263.527	100,0	Totale	85.417	100,0	Totale	55.861	100,0	TOTALE	248.294	100,0

FRIULI VEN	FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA EMILIA ROMAGNA					TOSCANA			MARCHE			UMBRIA			LAZIO			ABRUZZO		
Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%
Argentina	24.135	18,5	Svizzera	15.806	13,9	Argentina	13.067	12,5	Argentina	38.517	44,4	Francia	6.935	26,0	Brasile	62.472	20,8	Argentina	23.047	15,9
Francia	19.533	15,0	Argentina	15.785	13,9	Svizzera	11.481	11,0	Svizzera	7.103	8,2	Svizzera	3.685	13,8	Argentina	43.415	14,5	Svizzera	17.181	11,8
Svizzera	15.954	12,2	Francia	12.394	10,9	Francia	10.923	10,4	Francia	6.449	7,4	Germania	2.240	8,4	Francia	23.918	8,0	Belgio	16.493	11,4
Germania	8.805	6,8	Regno Unito	9.936	8,8	Brasile	10.743	10,3	Belgio	5.939	6,8	Argentina	1.994	7,5	USA	21.168	7,1	Francia	14.607	10,1
Belgio	8.744	6,7	Brasile	8.120	7,2	Regno Unito	7.605	7,3	Germania	4.624	5,3	Belgio	1.940	7,3	Regno Unito	18.185	6,1	Canada	14.109	9,7
Altri paesi	53.249	40,8	Altri paesi	51.283	45,3	Altri paesi	50.890	48,6	Altri paesi	24.105	27,8	Altri paesi	9.913	37,1	Altri paesi	130.856	43,6	Altri paesi	59.614	41,1
Totale	130.420	100,0	Totale	113.324	100,0	Totale	104.709	100,0	Totale	86.737	100,0	Totale	26.707	100,0	Totale	300.014	100,0	TOTALE	145.051	100,0

CAM	CAMPANIA MOLISE					BASILICATA			PUGLIA			CALABRIA			SICILIA			SARDEGNA		
Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%	Paese	v. a.	%
Germania	70.834	18,7	Argentina	15.269	21,5	Argentina	19.643	21,0	Germania	93.557	31,4	Argentina	68.729	22,0	Germania	186.851	31,4	Germania	26.965	29,2
Svizzera	67.950	17,9	Canada	11.201	15,8	Germania	15.740	16,8	Svizzera	63.111	21,2	Germania	60.688	19,4	Belgio	86.647	14,5	Francia	22.907	24,8
Argentina	41.443	10,9	Germania	7.281	10,2	Svizzera	15.485	16,6	Francia	31.146	10,5	Svizzera	40.473	13,0	Svizzera	62.509	10,5	Belgio	11.853	12,8
Regno Unito	34.494	9,1	Svizzera	7.250	10,2	Francia	6.078	6,5	Belgio	23.306	7,8	Francia	33.806	10,8	Francia	58.841	9,9	Svizzera	7.190	7,8
USA	33.555	8,8	Belgio	6.405	9,0	Uruguay	5.830	6,2	Argentina	15.877	5,3	Canada	24.206	7,8	Argentina	56.421	9,5	Paesi Bassi	5.965	6,5
Altri paesi	131.159	34,6	Altri paesi	23.661	33,3	Altri paesi	30.768	32,9	Altri paesi	70.539	23,7	Altri paesi	84.168	27,0	Altri paesi	144.480	24,3	Altri paesi	17.466	18,9
Totale	379.435	100,0	Totale	71.067	100,0	Totale	93.544	100,0	Totale	297.536	100,0	Totale	312.070	100,0	Totale	595.749	100,0	TOTALE	92.346	100,0

Fonte: Rapporto Migrantes Italiani nel Mondo. Elaborazioni su dati Aire

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Migrantes

RAPPORTO
ITALIANI
NEL MONDO
2007

Il Rapporto Italiani nel Mondo è realizzato per essere messo a disposizione di quanti si interessano, a vario titolo, dell'emigrazione italiana e per superare un atteggiamento di superficialità diffuso in molti ambiti.

> Nonostante l'immigrazione in Italia abbia ormal assunto una dimensione strutturale, non bi-

sogna trascurare i connazionali all'estero, che sono oggi meritevoli della massima attenzione perché, nell'attuale contesto di giobalizzazione, mettono a a disposizione dello sviluppo del paese una rete a dimensione mondiale.

Partendo da una panoramica aggiornata sui flussi e sulle presenze all'estero, il Rapporto Migrantes si occupa sia degli aspetti socio-culturali e religiosi che di quelli socio-economici, per soffermarsi nell'ultima parte su diversi approfondimenti tematici. I 44 autori dei capitoli, utilizzando i dati più aggiornati, hanno curato un'esposizione dallo stile semplice e accurato nell'intento di favorire la lettura e far appassionare ai temi trattati. "Un libro sull'emigrazione come questo non può rimanere chiuso nei cassetti e invita tutti a essere maggiormente attivi e protagonisti per organizzare presentazioni e dibattiti": questo l'auspicio della Fondazione Migrantes e del Comitato Promotore (Acli, Inasc Cisi, Mcl e Missionari Scalabriniani).



(euro 18,00)

EDIZIONI IDOS